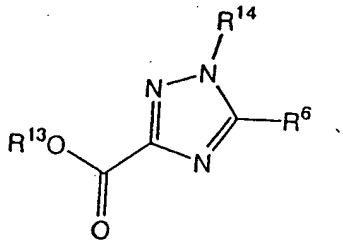
Amendments to the Clams

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) A compound of the formula (IV-9):



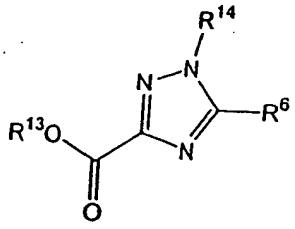
(IV-9)

wherein R^6 is hydrogen ~~or alkyl~~; R^{13} is alkyl, a group of the formula: $-R^7$ wherein R^7 is trityl, optionally substituted sulfamoyl or alkoxymethyl, a group of the formula: $C(OR^8)R^9$-$CHR^{10}R^{11}$ wherein R^8 is alkyl; R^9, R^{10} and R^{11} each is independently hydrogen or alkyl; or R^8 and R^{10} may be taken together to form alkylene, or hydroxymethyl; and R^{14} is a group of the formula: $-R^7$ wherein R^7 is as defined above, a group of the formula: $-C(OR^8)R^9$-$CHR^{10}R^{11}$ wherein R^8, R^9, R^{10} and R^{11} are defined above, or hydroxymethyl, provided that a compound wherein R^6 is hydrogen; R^{13} is methyl; and R^{14} is trityl, a compound wherein R^6 is hydrogen; R^{13} is methyl; and R^{14} is tetrahydropyran-2-yl, ~~a compound wherein R^6 is methyl; R^{13} is ethyl; and R^{14} is hydroxymethyl,~~ and a compound wherein R^6 is hydrogen; R^{13} is ethyl; and R^{14} is trityl are excluded.

21. (Original) The compound according to claim 20 wherein R^6 is hydrogen; R^{13} is methyl or ethyl; R^{14} is tetrahydropyran-2-yl, hydroxymethyl, methoxymethyl, ethoxymethyl, N,N-dimethylsulfamoyl, (1-methoxy-1-methyl)ethyl, (1-ethoxy)ethyl, (1-ethoxy-1-methyl)ethyl, (1-n-propoxy)ethyl, (1-n-butoxy)ethyl or (1-isobutoxy)ethyl.

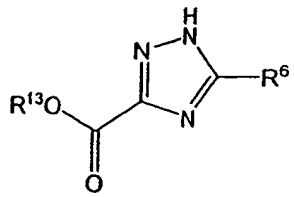
22-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of the formula (IV-9):



(IV-9)

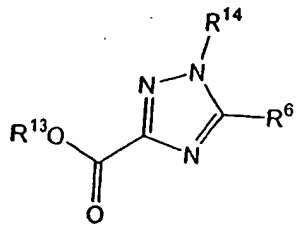
wherein R^6, R^{13} and R^{14} are as defined in claim 20, provided that a compound wherein R^6 is hydrogen; R^{13} is methyl; and R^{14} is trityl, a compound wherein R^6 is hydrogen; R^{13} is methyl; and R^{14} is tetrahydropyran-2-yl, ~~a compound wherein R^6 is methyl; R^{13} is ethyl; and R^{14} is hydroxymethyl~~, and a compound wherein R^6 is hydrogen; R^{13} is ethyl; and R^{14} is trityl are excluded, which comprises reacting a compound of the formula (IV-5-1):



(IV-5-1)

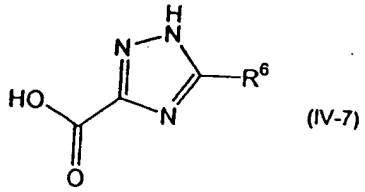
wherein R^6 and R^{13} are as defined in claim 20, with a compound of the formula: R^7X wherein R^7 is as defined in claim 20; and X is halogen, a compound of the formula: $(R^8O)R^9C=CR^{10}R^{11}$ wherein R^8, R^9, R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined in claim 20, or formaldehyde.

51. (Currently amended) A process of the preparation of a compound of the formula (IV-9):



(IV-9)

wherein R^6, R^{13} and R^{14} are as defined in claim 20, provided that a compound wherein R^6 is hydrogen; R^{13} is methyl; and R^{14} is trityl, a compound wherein R^6 is hydrogen; R^{13} is methyl; and R^{14} is tetrahydropyran-2-yl, ~~a compound wherein R^6 is methyl; R^{13} is ethyl; and R^{14} is hydroxymethyl~~, and a compound wherein R^6 is hydrogen; R^{13} is ethyl; and R^{14} is trityl are excluded, which comprises reacting a compound of the formula (IV-7):



(IV-7)

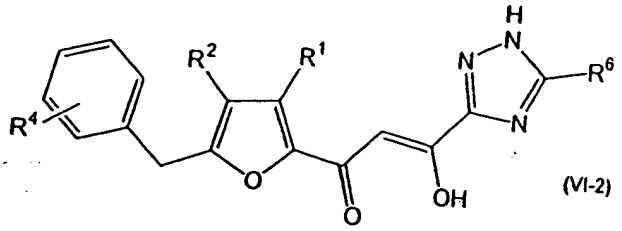
wherein R^6 is as defined in claim 20, with a compound of the formula: R^7X wherein R^7 is as defined in claim 20; and X is halogen, a compound of the formula: $(R^8O)R^9C=CR^{10}R^{11}$ wherein R^8, R^9, R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined in claim 20, or formaldehyde.

52. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 50 or 51 which comprises reacting with a compound of the formula: R^7X wherein R^7 is trityl.

53. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 50 or 51 which comprises reacting with a compound of the formula: $(R^8O)R^9C=CR^{10}R^{11}$ wherein R^8 and R^{10} are taken together to form trimethylene; and R^9 and R^{11} each is hydrogen.

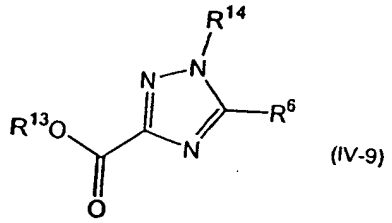
54. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 50 or 51 which comprises reacting with a compound of the formula: $(R^8O)R^9C=CR^{10}R^{11}$ wherein R^8 and R^9 each is methyl; and R^{10} and R^{11} each is hydrogen.

55. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of the formula (VI-2):



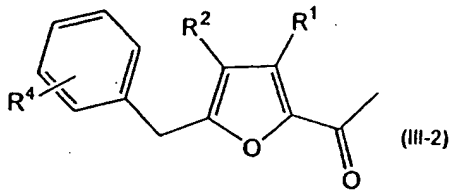
(VI-2)

wherein R^1, R^2 and R^4 each is independently hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkoxy or halogen; and R^6 is hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl or optionally substituted aryl, which comprises reacting a compound of the formula (IV-9):



(IV-9)

wherein R^6, R^{13} and R^{14} are as defined in claim 20, provided that a compound wherein R^6 is hydrogen; R^{13} is methyl; and R^{14} is trityl, a compound wherein R^6 is hydrogen; R^{13} is methyl; and R^{14} is tetrahydropyran-2-yl, ~~a compound wherein R^6 is methyl; R^{13} is ethyl; and R^{14} is hydroxymethyl~~, and a compound wherein R^6 is hydrogen; R^{13} is ethyl; and R^{14} is trityl are excluded, with a compound of the formula(III-2):



(III-2)

wherein R^1, R^2 and R^4 are as defined above, and deprotecting R^{14}.

56. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 55 wherein R^1, R^2 and R^6 each is hydrogen; and R^4 is halogen.